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AT PHILADELPHIA

Celebrating the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States.

Views of the Centennial Buildings and Descriptions of the Great Exposition.

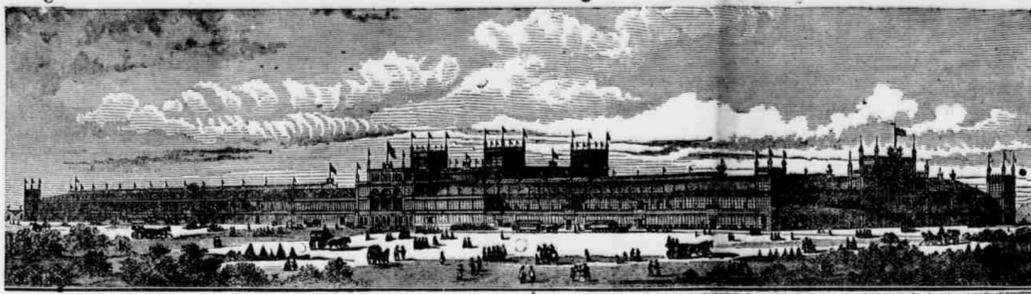
THE EXHIBITION BUILDINGS

THE MAIN BUILDING.

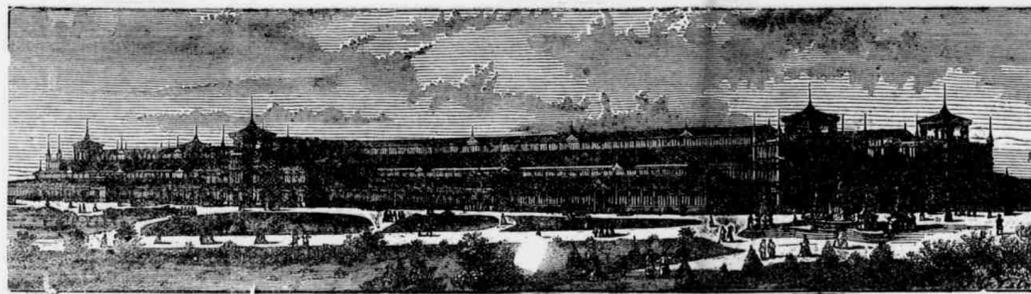
The Main Exhibition building is located 170 feet back from Elm avenue, and with a space 300 feet in width between it and the Art Gallery or Memorial Hall, on the north side of it. The building extends east and west 1,876 feet, and is 464 feet in height. There are four towers, seventy-five feet in height, one at each corner of the building, which to obtain a central feature of the building as a whole, the roof over the central part, for 184 feet square, is raised above the surrounding portion, and four towers forty-eight feet square, rising 120 feet, are introduced at the corners of this elevated roof. The area is: Ground floor, 872,293 square feet, 29,022 acres; upper floors in projections, 37,344 square feet, 85 acres; upper floors in towers, 26,314 square feet, 60 acres. Making a total of 936,008 square feet, and the building covering 21.47 acres.

MACHINERY HALL.

Machinery Hall, the next notable building, is located west of the intersection of Belmont and Elm avenues, 542 feet from the west front of the Main building, the north front being on the same line, thus presenting with it a frontage of 3,824 feet from east to west, upon the principal avenue within the grounds. The main hall is 320 feet wide by 1,492 feet long, with an annex on the south side 208 feet by 210 feet; the area of hall and annex is 558,440 square feet, or 12.82 acres, and including the upper floors, it covers a space of fourteen acres (floor space). There are two main avenues ninety feet in width, beginning thirty-five feet from the main hall, extending 208 feet, flanked on either side by aisles sixty feet in width, and forms the annex for hydraulic machinery. The promenades are fifteen feet



THE MAIN EXHIBITION BUILDING.



THE MACHINERY HALL.

The entrance is by three-arched doorways. The central section is ninety-five feet long, seventy-two feet high; arcades, each ninety feet long, forty feet high; there being two of the latter connecting the pavilions with the center. The dome rises from the center to a height of 150 feet, of glass and iron, terminating in a colossal bell, from which Columbia rises, with protecting hands. The hall at the main entrance is eighty-two feet long, sixty feet wide, and fifty-three feet high; the center hall is eighty-three feet square, the ceiling rising over it in a dome eighty feet high. The galleries, ninety-eight feet by eighty-eight

have put up similar structures. This Exhibition is the largest ever held. The following table shows the size of previous exhibitions in acres and tenths:

Munich, 1854	4.4
New York, 1853	4.2
England, 1851	18.6
Paris, 1855	22.1
London, 1851	23.9
London, Crystal Palace, 1851	25.6
Paris, 1867	31
Vienna, 1874	50.5
Philadelphia (Buildings)	60

Area of inclosed grounds, 236 acres. Lineal number of feet of the inclosure, 16,000. Number of entrances, thirteen. Dimensions of Main building, 1,876 feet by 464 feet. Art gallery, 210 feet by 365 feet. Machinery hall, 320 feet by 1,492 feet. Horticultural hall, 190 feet by 250 feet. United States Government Exhibition building, 500 feet by 200 feet, one and one-half acres. Office for the United States commission, eighty feet by 300 feet, three-quarters of an acre. Avenues and walks, seven miles. Length of horse railway, four miles. Average distance between the buildings, 500 feet.

A Pleasant Description

A correspondent says: The grass of the Centennial lawns is thick and green, and

no military organization shall occupy the grounds without permission from the governor or his authorized military officer; before it can enter the grounds each organization must acquire the secretary of the park commission, No. 251 South Fourth street, within name, locality and the names of its officers; no more than one piece of artillery shall at any one time be permitted within the grounds, and but two salutes—one in the morning, the other in the evening—of which six hours' previous notice must be given to the captain of the park guard, shall be fired; no horse shall be stalled or fed within the grounds, nor vehicles of any kind be permitted to remain within them, except during the loading or unloading of military equipments or supplies; no structures, except military tents, shall be erected within them without the permission of the committee on superintendence and police; the drives or walks must not be encroached upon; each and every person encamping there shall be subject to the park regulations; the governor is responsible for restoring the grounds to the commission in the same condition they were when first used for military purposes; notices of the regulations must at all times be conspicuously exhibited throughout the grounds, and a sufficient military guard must at all times be maintained. The license to occupy the ground for military purposes shall be revocable at any time should the authorities deem such action necessary for the safety of the park and the preservation of public peace and comfort.

The West Indies, from which many thousands of visitors will surely come. And then the countries of Europe and of Asia, and even Northern Africa. It cannot be deemed extravagant to predict that, at least, 3,000,000 of people (including our own citizens) will visit the Centennial; and if they buy only two tickets each, the receipts will be \$3,000,000. But this estimate is far below that made by many of our citizens, who have given this subject much careful thought, and who foresee, from present indications, a wonderfully large multitude here next summer, and their belief is shared by so many that Centennial stock is said to have "stiffened up" very considerably of late. Those who hold it in some cases, we are informed, have refused to sell it at par, and the chances are that speculators will soon be found buying up this stock. There is a feeling of pride among Philadelphians in respect to reimbursing the Federal government for the conditional appropriation lately made of \$1,500,000, and the belief is becoming pretty general that the Centennial commission will be enabled to repay this sum, even after having satisfied the stockholders and others.

Notes of the Exhibition.

A prominent newspaper publisher of Canada gives it as his opinion that not less than 50,000 Canadians will visit the Exhibition.

A feature in Machinery Hall is an American lifeboat which has experienced rough service.

One thousand and two hundred parties have space allotted in Agricultural Hall, nearly half of whom have installed their exhibits.

Count C. Lievanhaupt, the newly appointed minister of Sweden and Norway to the United States, has been appointed grand commissioner of that government.

The committee on international regatta have apprised Commodore Ferguson of a proposal of the New York boating men to purchase \$5,000 to the regatta fund and to present one or two of the prizes.

The Third New York cavalry, numbering three hundred troopers, propose galloping to the Exhibition.

A large consignment of the Ohio archaeological association has arrived at the Exhibition. It comprises grooved and ungrooved axes of hard slate, flint, sandstone and granite; arrow and spear heads chipped out of flint, moss agate, chalcedony and jasper; catlinite pipes, curiously fashioned, marine-shell beads, grooved hoes, root-diggers, spades, rare specimens of ancient pottery, quartz bottles, heavy sandstone pipes, a long hollow stone tube supposed to have been used as a telescope, and numberless other curiosities representing all that is left of the famous mound builders.

The United States building has become thickly covered with seals, walrus, sea deer, white bears, cougars, coyotes, jaguars, for seals, crocodiles, grizzly bears, Rocky mountain goats, peccaries and buffaloes, but they are all stuffed, and are from the Smithsonian Institution.

The Old Guard.

The old thirteen States will be represented in the military display as follows: The Amoskeag Veterans, from New Hampshire; the Boston Light Infantry, from Massachusetts; the Providence Light Infantry, from Rhode Island; the New Haven Greys, from Connecticut; the Old Guard, from New York; the Phil Kearny Guards, from New Jersey; the State Fencibles, from Pennsylvania; the American Rifles, from Delaware; the Fifth Regiment, from Maryland; the Norfolk Blues, from Virginia; the Fayetteville Guards, from North Carolina; the Washington Light Infantry, from South Carolina; and the Clinch Rifles, from Georgia.

The Grangers' Encampment.

The Grangers' encampment at Elm station, on the Pennsylvania railroad, is completed and the buildings ready. The terms are only \$1 per day for room rent and fifty cents per meal. A branch railroad line runs to the Centennial grounds, and a nominal fare is charged. The Grangers have the preference in securing quarters, but the general public is accommodated on the above terms.

Whittier's Centennial Hymn.

Our fathers' God! from out whose land
The centuries fall like grains of sand,
We meet to-day, united, free,
And loyal to our land and Thee,
To thank Thee for the sea down,
And trust Thee for the opening one.

Here where of old, by Thy design,
The fathers spoke that word of Truth
Whose echo is the glad refrain
Of rounded bolt and falling chain,
To grace our festal time from all
The zones of earth our guests we call.

Be with us while the new world greets
The old world, thronging all its streets,
Unveiling all the triumph won
By art and toil beneath the sun,
And unto common good ordain
This rivalry of hand and brain.

Thou who hast here in concord furled
The war flags of a gathered world,
Beneath our western skies fulfill
The Orient's mission of good will,
And, freighted with love's golden fleece,
Send back the argonauts of peace.

For art and labor met in truth,
For beauty made the bride of use,
We thank Thee, while withal we crave
The anster virtues strong to save,
The honor proof to place or gold,
The manhood never bought or sold!
Oh! make them us, through centuries long
In peace secure, and justice strong;
Around our gift of freedom draw
The safeguards of Thy righteous law,
And, cast in some diviner mold,
Let the new cycle shame the old!

The French Workmen.

At a meeting of workmen in Paris, Louis Blanc closed an address by saying that it was proposed to send one hundred and twenty workmen, two of each trade, to Philadelphia. The expenses of each were estimated at \$300; consequently the sum of \$36,000 must be raised. The municipality of Paris has voted one-fifth of the amount; the Chamber will be asked to vote \$20,000; and the remainder must be contributed by subscriptions.

Victor Hugo closed a characteristic address to the workmen as follows: I greet you, you who are about to set out for Philadelphia. You will see with your own eyes this immense deed which the nineteenth century will see. Go, workmen of Paris who know how to toil; go, workmen of Paris who know how to fight; tell the new world that the old world is growing young. Go and bear the great news of the republic consolidated among you. You are the ambassadors of fraternity; you are the envoys of Voltaire in the country of Washington; you set out from the continent where Jesus Christ was born to go to the land where John Brown was born. This bringing together of two republics will not be without result. A breath of clemency will extend

The Centennial at Night.

As has been announced, the principal edifices on the Centennial grounds will be closed at six o'clock in the evening, but thousands of promenadeers who will have, in the course of two or three weeks' visiting, wearied of the displays of machinery, pictures and curiosities from every clime, will throng to the park in the cool dusk, and will patronize the concerts and the re-



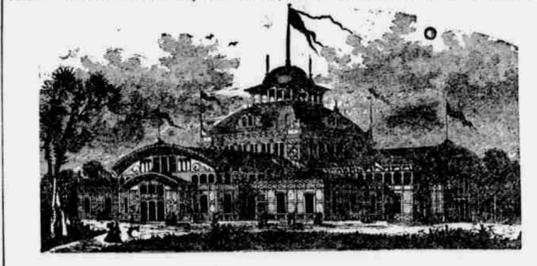
CARPENTERS' HALL.

taurants, and will stroll in the leafy avenues. It will be difficult to find in the whole country, in the months of June and July, any place of resort more absolutely lovely than this section of Fairmount park will be when the Exhibition is at the height of its glory. In the various State buildings, receptions, balls and quiet parties will frequently be given; the foreign commissioners will hold levees in their handsome quarters,



THE LIBERTY BELL.

and elegant crowds will gather on the balconies of the "American restaurant," which spreads its rambling halls over a large territory in a beautifully shaded nook. These balconies are vast, and will be a refuge to the weary during the heat of the days. There will be exhibitions of electric lights, which will illuminate the statues, the fountains, the stately dome of Memorial



THE WOMEN'S PAVILION.

hall and the graceful arches of the mammoth conservatory. Both within the Exhibition inclosure, and just outside of it, there will be numerous excellent concerts. A huge theater is in process of construction on the main avenue leading to the grounds. It is not too much to say that if attractions continue to multiply as they have lately multiplied, evening at the Centennial will be far more interesting to the masses than the day. A Prussian military band is promised, and that with Offenbach and the Germans, and Thomas, and some of the excellent orchestras from neighboring cities, we shall have no lack of music. In the long summer afternoons excursion on the Schuylkill, on the romantic Wissahickon, and to Belmont Mansion can be organized whenever eyes and ears are weary of miles of pictures and statuary, or of the thunderous refrain of acres of machinery in motion.

The Netherlands, Etc.

Whoever visits the Netherlands section will behold, perhaps, the best executed specimen of the fine arts in the Main building. It consists of a series of scenes from the most popular works of Schiller and Goethe. The groundwork is on glass. The moon shining in the sky, windows rekindled by interior illumination, gleaming expressions of the human countenance, light contrasted with shade and everything approaching the sparkling or the brilliant are introduced by means of delicate inlaying of mother-of-pearl, silver, gold and other precious substances. The whole is then covered with glass.

In the French section a representation of the cave at Bethlehem, with life size plaster figures, showing the shepherds in adoration of the newborn Savior, is a recent feature. A British exhibitor has hung up two pieces of floor oilcloth, each about twenty by forty feet in size.

A City of Homes.

A feature of Philadelphia to which Mr. O'Neill, in the United States House, directed attention, is its liberal provision of homes for its inhabitants. He said: "In the first place, it is a village that contains about 145,000 or 144,000 dwelling houses. It contains more than double the number of the cities of New York, Brooklyn and San Francisco combined. The expenses of living in Philadelphia are not to be compared with the expenses of living in New York; for in Philadelphia people live, and do not merely exist; I mean the manner of the living of the skilled mechanic or laborer. In Philadelphia every man lives in a house, is a housekeeper, and gives his family a chance for health and life. In the city of New York families live in a room or in crowded apartments, and they do not pay the same rent for a room that the Philadelphia man does for a house."

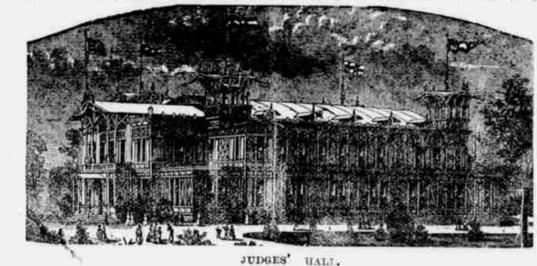
South American Curiosities.

The Chilean exhibit includes a magnificent collection of precious ores and native vines, besides a large quantity of machinery. Some of the small South American republics, not distinct exhibitors, occupy part of the Chilean space. Among these, Guayaquil has sent samples of a straw hat made from the delicate young palm leaf. It takes several months to make one hat, as it can only be worked upon at night in order to escape the action of the sun and heat. No seam or joint is visible, and each hat is valued at several hundred dollars.

A French Exposition.

A French Exposition—France intends to have an international exhibition in 1878, and \$24,000,000 have been voted already for preliminaries.

In the Centennial Exhibition there are not many things more attractive and valuable and suggestive than what Philadelphia herself offers as a city of homes.



JUDGES' HALL.

in width in the avenues, twenty-five feet in the transverse, and ten feet in the aisles; all other walls are ten feet in width and lead to exit doors. The columns are sixteen feet apart, forty-five feet high to the heel block of the ninety feet span trusses over the avenues. The outer walls are masonry to the height of five feet, and above they are composed of glazed sash between the columns. Eight main lines of shafting may be introduced extending almost the entire length of the structure; and counter shafts can be introduced into the aisles at any point. In the hydraulic annex at the south end there is a waterfall thirty-five feet high and forty feet wide, to be supplied from the tank by the pumps on exhibition.

AGRICULTURAL HALL.

Agricultural Hall stands north of the Horticultural building, and consists of a nave and three transepts. The nave is 820 feet in length, 125 feet in width, with a height of seventy-five feet from the floor to the point of the arch. The ground floor is a parallel to the ground plan, is 820 feet, covering a space of about ten acres. Near the hall is the stock yards, etc.

HORTICULTURAL HALL.

The Horticultural Hall is one of the main features, and for the accommodation of the lovers of nature and her works a splendid building is constructed. The total length, as shown on the ground plan, is 820 feet, with 150 feet height seventy-two feet. The central portion will be occupied by the grand conservatory, 230 feet by eighty feet, and between this and the outer frame will be the warm and cold houses, four in number, one hundred feet by thirty feet. At one end is a restaurant, eighty feet by thirty feet; at one of the corners is a gentlemen's saloon, forty feet by forty feet; at the opposite corner a ladies' saloon, forty feet by forty feet, while on the other end and corresponding are the offices of the hall, of similar dimensions.

THE ART GALLERY.

The Art Gallery, or Memorial Hall, erected at the expense of the State of Pennsylvania and city of Philadelphia, is located on a line parallel with and northward of the Main building. It is 365 feet long, 210 feet in width, fifty-nine feet in height,

and is located on an eminence 116 feet above the level of the Schuylkill, on a terrace six feet above the general level of the Lansdowne plateau, which commands a view southward over the whole city. There is a spacious basement twelve feet in height, and over all a dome; the entire structure being in the modern Renaissance.

The cost of the building was as follows: Main building, \$1,420,000; Art Gallery, \$1,100,000; Horticultural Hall, \$450,000; Agricultural Hall, \$180,000. Total, \$3,150,000.

The Centennial Grounds.

The ground selected for the site of the Exhibition in Fairmount Park is west of the Schuylkill river, and north of Girard and Elm avenues, on a plateau ninety feet above the river, heretofore known as Lansdowne. The boundaries of the Exhibition are: South, Elm avenue, from Forty-first to Fifty-second streets; west, the park drive to George's hill, with the concourse; north, Belmont drive from George's hill to the foot of Belmont; and east, Lansdowne drive from Belmont to Forty-first street. The whole of the Exhibition being inclosed, thirteen entrances have been established along the boundary drive, which it has been suggested, might appropriately be



THE INDEPENDENCE HALL.

The Centennial Receipts.

A Philadelphia paper says: Five persons predict that there will be five millions of visitors who will average at least three tickets each. This would make the receipts \$7,500,000. It is not presumable that anybody will be satisfied with a single ticket to the Exhibition. No one could see a thing of what will be on exhibition during one visit, and it is safe to say that it will require at least five visits to go through the show, however hastily one may glance at the thousands of novelties to be seen. No doubt, all who can afford to do so, will go so often as may be necessary to "take it all in," and hence it would seem to be safe to estimate that at least three tickets will be sold to each visitor on an average. But how many people will come to the Exhibition it is impossible to foretell. Our own city and vicinity will furnish many thousands of ticket buyers. From the adjacent country almost everybody will come to the Exhibition. The neighboring counties will pour in tens and hundreds of thousands of people, and New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland will send armies of men, women and children. New York city and State will be very largely represented, and so will New England, while the great Mississippi valley will send legions. Even the far-off Pacific coast will send large delegations. From the South the attendance will not be so large; but even from that section the people will come by thousands, and it is impossible to estimate the number of people that the United States alone will furnish as visitors to the Centennial. The population of this country is at least 40,000,000 and the

The Military in the Park.

The governor of Pennsylvania has accepted

named in honor of the thirteen original States. Economy and adaptability of the territory have been the guiding points in the selection of the various locations. The main line of connection between the buildings is straight and correct; and, for the still greater convenience of visitors, it is proposed to have cars running on the same. The meadow ground between the main avenues, reserved for private exhibition building, will be treated in regular park style, with walks and plantings, to unite the whole into a handsome picture. Lakes and fountains, fine rare specimens of trees and shrubs, statuary and vases, etc., will be added to the ornamentation.